

**CLASS SPECIFICATION**  
**County of Fairfax, Virginia**

**CLASS CODE:** 5324    **TITLE:** SENIOR PLUMBING INSPECTOR    **GRADE:** S-18

**DEFINITION:**

Under general supervision, performs a variety of difficult and specialized inspections of plumbing systems that supply public water, sewer or storm drainage, or gas supply, requiring the exercise of independent judgment and initiative; provides technical advice to the general public; and performs related work as required.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:**

This class is distinguished from the Plumbing Inspector class by the ability to independently conduct specialized plumbing inspections that require the exercise of independent judgment and initiative. Both classes require knowledge, skills, and abilities that must be acquired through work experience as a journey-level plumber.

**ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:**

Inspects building construction to ensure that installation of plumbing and connections to public water, sewer, storm drainage and gas systems are in compliance with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, National Plumbing Code, International Plumbing Code, sound engineering and construction practices, and approved plans;

Inspects buildings to ensure that cross-connection installations do not have an adverse impact on the buildings' structural and fire safety;

Enters the results of each inspection into a hand-held computer terminal;

If an inspection reveals work that is not approved, identifies the sections of the regulations being violated, issues written violation notices to developer, and takes necessary action to ensure violations are corrected (e.g., testifies to facts in court, recommends "shut down" of the project, and/or assists in securing arrest warrants);

Inspects developers' field operations for compliance with the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Act (VOSHA), and resolves all discrepancies through cooperation with the developer (or, if the developer refuses to correct the deficiency, through notification of the violation to the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry for its action);

Prior to issuance of a permit, examines and interprets plans for installation of plumbing systems in all types of buildings, recommending changes in plumbing design when necessary;

Reviews requests from developers for inspections, and schedules inspections;

Investigates citizen complaints concerning construction of single-family homes/commercial buildings and the two-year follow-on warranty period, evaluates their validity, reports investigative findings, and recommends corrective action when necessary;

Meets with homeowners, developers, engineers, contractors and interested citizens to provide information and answer questions about applicability of County development regulations to field construction;

Interprets applicable plumbing and gas codes;

Attends meetings and conferences;

Prepares reports and composes correspondence;

Coordinates final approvals before occupancy with other agencies to ensure that all applicable requirements are met;

Acts as section supervisor in absence of his or her superior.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

Working knowledge of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, National Plumbing Code, International Plumbing Code, and other applicable codes and ordinances enforced by the Department of Environmental Management;

Working knowledge of the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Act (VOSHA);

Knowledge of the energy conservation requirements and codes;

Knowledge of the principles and practices of plumbing and gas systems;

Knowledge of materials, methods, and equipment used in plumbing and gas installation and repair;

Knowledge of the procedures and techniques used to accomplish cross connections to public water supply and distribution systems, sanitary drainage systems, storm drainage systems, and gas supply and distribution systems;

Ability to read and interpret plans, blueprints, and specifications for plumbing and gas installations;

Ability to use sound judgment in making independent decisions;

Ability to prepare clear and factual reports;

Ability to use hand-held computers to enter results of inspections conducted;

Ability to work with people and obtain their cooperation, even in difficult situations.

**EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:**

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to the following:

High school graduation or a G.E.D. issued by a state department of education; PLUS

One year of experience as a plumbing inspector and/or as a supervisor of journey-level plumbers;  
AND

Two years of experience as a journey-level plumber.

**CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:**

Certification by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development as a Plumbing Inspector General within one year of employment.

Possession of a valid Motor Vehicle Driver's License.

REVISED: August 23, 2010

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